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URBAN DISTRICT OF PENARTH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1942

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PENARTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor A. C. J. White, (Chairman)

Councillor A. Brockington, (Vice-Chairman)

Coun.	G. Barrett,	Coun.	J. W. Jones,
"	H. J. Cook,	"	Wm. Jones,
"	F. R. Cratchley,	"	G. A. Moon,
"	A. T. Hall,	"	W. A. Pritchard,
"	G. Hallett,	"	L. White.

Clerk to the Council.....Thos. John, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor G. Hallett, (Chairman).

All the Members of the Urban District Council.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

All the Members of the Urban District Council, together with the following co-opted members:-

Mrs. W. S. Angove,	Mrs. Maillard,
Mrs. John Gibbs,	Miss L. M. S. Reavely,
Mrs. L. Gibbs,	Mrs. J. Thomas.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

CHARLES A. JONES, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London).

Medical Officer of Health;
Medical Officer of Isolation Hospital;
Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare.

(Part-time Officer)

Chief Sanitary Inspector.....A. H. Mountain, A.R.San.I., S.R.I.B.A. Cert. Meat Insp. Roy. San. Inst.

Additional Sanitary Inspector...D. E. Sheppard, B.A. (Wales), M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H. Cert. Meat. Insp. Roy. San. Inst.

Health Visitors.....Mrs. G. M. Cowen, S.R.N. S.C.M.

Miss G. M. Lunn, S.R.N. S.C.M.

Matron, Isolation Hospital.....Mrs. Hilda Gwynn.

PENARTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS of the
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour and privilege once again as your Medical Officer of Health to present my Annual Report on the state of the Health of the district and on the work carried out by my department during the year, 1942.

There are many pleasing features in comparison with previous reports which you will readily observe; the birth rate for the district has increased, the infantile mortality rate (death rate of children under one year of age) has decreased, whilst the amount of infectious disease is very low, the incidence of Diphtheria still showing a marked decline. In addition the number of parents who have availed themselves of the immunisation scheme was very encouraging and during the year, 199 children under 5 years, and 60 children between 5 and 15 years were immunised. Since the inauguration of the scheme approximately 2,275 children had been dealt with, up to the end of the year.

A rather discouraging feature, however, is the increase to be noted in the number of notifications of Tuberculosis; this is general throughout the country, and shows that Penarth has not remained unaffected by this dreaded scourge of man. There can be no doubt that the cumulative effects of wartime conditions with regard to housing and excessive hours of employment, the "Black-out" and other unavoidable inconveniences of war play no small part in undermining the resistance of man to infection and disease. In connection with this I would most strongly urge the complete pasteurisation of all milk for children so that the ravages of bovine Tuberculosis may be nullified and limited, as far as possible. Such a step would undoubtedly be governed by economic considerations, but if the health of the growing child - the man and woman of tomorrow - is to be safeguarded, then I must range myself whole heartedly on the side of those who advocate the pasteurisation of milk. I look forward to the future, Gentlemen, when I hope to see this become a reality, and all milk which is marketed will not only be clean but thoroughly safe.

The housing programme and repairs to property suffered considerably during the year, it being found to be almost impossible, owing to the great shortage of labour and material, to effect very substantial repairs, except in those cases which were extremely urgent and necessitous. As a result much of the property in the town is badly deteriorating and I would suggest that when conditions revert to normal that a complete survey of the district be undertaken with a view to the proper habilitation of a great number of the people and to deal with those cases of overcrowding which in all probability will have arisen and which at the present moment, we are powerless to control to any great extent.

May I in conclusion express my gratitude to the Members of the Council for their continued confidence and trust, and also to the members of my department for their willing co-operation and loyalty.

I am, Your obedient Servant,
CHAS. A. JONES.
Medical Officer of Health.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The Urban District of Penarth comprises the parishes of Penarth, Cogan and Llandough, the latter parish having rural characteristics. The geological structure of the district is made up as follows:-

Red and Grey Marls	1,024 acres
Lower Lias	807 "
Estuarine Mud	205 "
Rhaetic	122 "
Foreshore	305 "

The elevation above sea level is 200 feet in the Northern portion of the area with a gentle slope to 40 feet at its Southern boundary.

The eastern boundary and a portion of the northern are washed by the waters of the Bristol Channel which pursues its course towards the southern boundary; therefore any winds between a north-easterly & south-easterly come across the Channel.

The district is exceptionally well wooded, its streets being for the most part avenues of trees which in the summer afford a welcome shade. It is well provided with modern public swimming-baths, recreation grounds, parks and open spaces and possesses to the fullest extent all the conveniences and comforts so desirable in both a residential locality and a summer seaside resort; it combines all the advantages of a modern well-equipped town with the charm of country life and the healthy breezes of the seaside.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (including foreshore)	2,508 acres.
Population (Census 1931)	17,710
Number of inhabited houses	4,816
Rateable value	£124,507.
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£494.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
No. of live Births (legitimate)	234	124	110
No. of live Births (illegit.)	14	7	7
Total	248		

Birth Rate of estimated resident population = 15·9 per 1,000

	Total	Male	Female
No. of Still Births (legitimate)	8	4	4
No. of Still Births (illegit)	1	-	1

Still Birth Rate = 35·01 per 1,000 Births and 0·58 per 1,000 estimated population.

No. of Deaths.....Male 101....Female...90...Total..191....

Death Rate of Estimated resident population..12·3...per 1,000..

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis.....Nil.....

Deaths from other Puerperal Causes.....Nil.....

Infantile Mortality Rates.

All infants per 1,000 live births.....40.....

Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births.....36.....

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births..... 4.....

Number of Deaths from Measles. (all ages).....Nil.....

Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough. (all ages)....Nil.....

Number of Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..2.....

Comparative Vital Statistics.

Table 1 shows the Birth and Death Rates for the past 10 years in England and Wales, Glamorgan and Penarth.

Table 1.

		BIRTHS			DEATHS			
		Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			Under 1 year		At all ages	
Year	No.	Penarth	England & Wales.	Glamorgan	No.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Birth Registered	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.
1932	243	13·7	15·3	16·4	7	29	172	9·7
1933	194	11.1	14.4	16·0	9	46	199	11·3
1934	229	13·1	14·8	16.5	11	48	210	12.0
1935	208	12.1	14.7	16.0	11	53	218	12.7
1936	207	12.2	14.8	15-4	11	53	181	10.7
1937	200	12.2	14.9	15.3	16	80	209	12.7
1938	202	12.6	15.1	15.4	11	54	189	11.8
1939	193	12.0	15.0	13.1	9	41	225	13.8
1940	203	12.2	14.6	17.2	16	79	244	14.6
1941	229	14.6	14.2	16.7	11	48	240	15.3
Av.for 10 yrs	211	12.6	14.9	15.8	11	53	209	12.5
1942	248	15.9	15.8	18.2	10	40	191	12.3

Table 11 shows the number of Births and the Infantile Mortality Rates for the County and District of Glamorgan during 1942.

Table 11

District	No. of Births	Deaths Under 1 Year	Rate Per 1000 Births.
England and Wales	-	-	49
Administrative County of Glamorgan	13,036	719	55
ABERDARE	632	42	66
BARRY	747	37	50
BRIDGEND	203	7	34
CAERPHILLY	674	43	64
COWBRIDGE	21	2	95
GELLYGAER	785	45	57
GLYNCORRWG	210	13	62
LLWCHWR	483	20	41
MAESTEG	461	28	61
MOUNTAIN ASH	445	28	46
NEATH BOROUGH	480	29	60
OGMORE & GARW	445	26	58
PENARTH	248	10	40
PONTYPRIDD	709	43	61
PORTHCAWL	146	5	34
PORT TALBOT BOROUGH	778	35	45
RHONDDA	2,098	132	63
TOTAL FOR DISTRICTS	9,732	545	56

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1942.

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	4
7. Other Tuberculosis Disease	-	-
8. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
9. Influenza	1	-
10. Measles	-	-
11. Ac. Polio-myelitis & Polio Encephalitis	-	-
12. Ac. Inf. Encephalitis	-	-
13. Cancer of B. Cav: & Oesoph (m) Uterus (f)	-	4
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	1	6
15. Cancer of Breast	-	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	9	4
17. Diabetes	1	1
18. Intra-cranial Vasc. Lesions.	7	16
19. Heart Disease	30	25

CAUSES OF DEATHS CONTINUED.

	Male	Female
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	6
21. Bronchitis	6	3
22. Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	-
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	-
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	-
26. Appendicitis	-	-
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	4
28. Nephritis	2	1
29. Puerperal & Post Abort; Sepsis	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes	-	1
31. Premature Birth	2	-
32. Congenital mal; Birth injuries	4	2
33. Suicide	-	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	-
35. Violent Causes	4	2
36. All other causes	9	9
ALL CAUSES	101	90
TOTAL	191	

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

CASES. During the year the following cases were notified:-

Scarlet Fever	8	(including 1 from Llandough).
Diphtheria	6	(including 2 from Llandough).
Measles	11	

DISINFECTION.

18 patients were removed to Hospital; 5 rooms were disinfected after infection, and 25 bags of bedding and clothing were treated in the steam disinfector at the Isolation Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital which is provided by the Local Authority is situated at Llandough and consists of the following:-

An administrative block:
An observation block:
Wards with accommodation for 32 patients:
Large Army Hut fitted up with Bath and Sanitary conveniences.

The Hospital has proved to be sufficient for all the requirements of the district and during the year the number of cases admitted and treated were as follows:-

5 Diphtheria	1 Erysipelas
5 Diphtheria Carriers	1 Typhoid
6 Scarlet Fever	

Arrangements have been made with the City of Cardiff authorities for the treatment and removal of cases of Small Pox which may occur in the district. The number of children successfully vaccinated by the Medical Officer of Health as Public Vaccinator was 123 and 41 were revaccinated.

There are no Hospitals in the District for the treatment of Tuberculosis, Maternity and Children, etc., but advantage is taken of the proximity of the City of Cardiff, which is well provided with large up-to-date Hospitals. A large modern General Hospital situated at Llandough is within this District, and is provided by the Cardiff City Council for the treatment of acute surgical and medical cases, and contains 340 beds.

The Local Authority provides and maintains a Motor Ambulance Service for the conveyence of Infectious disease cases, non-infectious cases, Maternity, and accident cases. During the year a total of 1,124 patients were conveyed to and from Hospitals, Nursing Homes, etc.

Laboratory Facilities:- The following Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations were made at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory.

Swabs	(Diphtheria)	132
Blood	Br. Abortus	1
Faeces	Enteric	2
Blood	Enteric	2
Urine	Organisms	1
Haem.	Streptococci	1
Milks		94
Water	(Bacteriological 1)	3
	(Chemical 2)	

As will be observed from the following tables the number of notifications of infectious disease received during the year was very low and shows a marked decrease from the previous year when the figure was 480 as against 171 for the year 1942.

However, there was an unfortunate increase in the incidence of Tuberculosis, 19 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis being notified in contrast to 6 cases for the year ending 1941.

The following tables show the incidence of notifiable diseases during the year 1942.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASES	ALL AGES	UNDER 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Admitted to Hosp.	Notified by Llanf.	Treated at Home.
Small Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	24	5	13	1	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	13
Diphtheria	5	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	-
Scarlet Fever	8	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	5	1	2
Enteric (incl. Paratyphoid)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	107	3	4	1	5	2	11	10	6	16	18	26	5	-	76	311
Erysipelas	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	2	2
Measles	11	-	4	1	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	4	-
TOTAL	171	10	24	4	7	7	18	12	12	23	19	28	7	11	98	62

Tuberculosis

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulm.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
10-15	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
15-20	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	1
20-25	3	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
25-35	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
35-45	3	1	-	-	3	2	-	2
45-55	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
	12	7	-	-	7	6	2	8
Total	19				23			

The Tuberculosis Physician, Dr. Gilchrist, has kindly compiled the following table in connection with the treatment of Tuberculosis during the year 1942. The figures in parenthesis denote the corresponding cases for the year 1941.

Number of new cases seen.....(120)..149.

Number found to be suffering from Pulm. Tuberculosis.(9)....17.

Number found to be suffering from Non-Pulm. Tuber. ..(6).....0.

Number with no evidence of Tuberculosis.....(94)..120.

Number still under observation.....(11)...12.

Admissions To Treatment.

AGE PERIODS.	PULMONARY							NON-PULMONARY						
	1-5		5-15		15 & Over		All Ages	1-5		5-15		15 & Over		All Ages
	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	
INSTITUTIONAL	-	-	-	-	5	6	11	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
DOMICILIARY	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
DISPENSARY	-	-	-	-	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
	-	-	-	-	8	7		-	-	-	1	1	-	
	TOTAL						15							2

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

No person suffering from Tuberculosis was found to be engaged in the production or distribution of Milk.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

CLINICS.

Three Clinics and treatment centres under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme have been established: they are held at:-

(a) The "Catherine Jenkins" Infant Welfare Institute, "Beecroft" Stanwell Road;

(b) The Methodist Chapel, Dock Street, Cogan;

(c) The Presbyterian Schoolroom, Plassey Street.

Consultations take place as follows:-

(1) "Beecroft" twice weekly (Monday and Thursday, 3-0 p.m.)
(11) Presbyterian Schoolroom (Tuesday from 3-0 p.m.);
(111) Methodist Chapel, Cogan (Friday from 3-0 p.m.).

Ante-natal consultations are held from 10-0 a.m. at "Beecroft" on the second and last Wednesday in each month.

A Birth Control and Gynaecological Clinic is also held at "Beecroft" on the first and third Wednesday in each month from 11-0 a.m. under the direction of Dr. Sybil Morgan.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives practising in the district under the jurisdiction of the Glamorgan County Council.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Under the arrangement made with the Glamorgan Education Authority for the Service of a Lady Dental Surgeon to give Dental Treatment to expectant mothers and children under school age, the following work has been done at "Beecroft" during the year.

	Mothers	Children	Total.
No. Treated	10	0	10
No. of attendances	60	0	60
No. of extractions	59	0	59
No. of fillings	0	0	0
No. of scalings and dressings	2	0	2
No. of dentures	5	0	5
No. treated under N_2O	1	0	1

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In all cases of Puerperal Fever a copy of the certificate is immediately forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health, who arranges for all investigations to be made.

CHILDRENS ACT 1908.

The duties required by the Act are carried out by your Health Visitors.

NURSERY SCHOOL.

A War-Time Nursery School is in the process of completion at 43 Clive Place, which will provide accommodation and Welfare for approximately 25 Children whose parents are by day employed on work of National importance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The district is within the area of supply of the City of Cardiff and receives a constant service of upland surface water from the Brecknock Beacons.

By arrangement with the County Council, samples are taken to the County Laboratory for Chemical and Bacteriological Examination.

Three routine samples were taken for Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations including one from the Public Swimming Baths.

Report of Analyst on Examination of Water Samples During 1942.

CHEMICAL		1	2
Date of Analysis		14-4-42	23-12-42
Appearance in two foot tube		Pale green and clear	Pale green and clear
Reaction		P_H 7·1	P_H 7·1
Total hardness	parts per 100,000		3·9
Chlorine	parts per 100,000		·9
Nitrogen as nitrates	parts per 100,000	Small amount.	Pract. nil.
Saline (or "free") Ammonia	parts per 100,000		·0008
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	parts per 100,000		·0016
Poisonous metals	parts per 100,000		Nil
Nitrites	parts per 100,000		Nil
Microscopic exam. of sediment		Small amount.	Pract. Nil.
Residual free chlorine		Nil	Nil
Volume of sediment		·3	Nil

Remarks:

In each case the chemical and microscopical characters are satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

Date of analysis	23-12-42
Bacteria developing per m.l. at 20° C.	Nil
Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37° C.	1
B. Coli present in	2 m.l.
B. Coli absent from	½ m.l.

Remarks.

Of doubtful bacterial purity.

SCHOOLS.

Situated in the district are the following schools:-

Penarth Intermediate,
Victoria Council School,
Albert Road Council School,
Cogan Council School,
Penarth R. C. School,
Llandough C. of E.

The whole of the schools are provided with a constant supply of pure water, good drainage and sanitary fittings, urinals etc. which are flushed with automatic tanks.

Verminous Infestation.

Owing to the infestation of bugs etc., the Council has found it necessary to make provisions for disinfestation at a minimum charge of £1-1-0 per house. The eradication of the bug is brought about by means of gas ous disinfestation after the removal of all infested wood work.

During the year no Council house was found to be infested; three privately owned houses were found to be infested and these were all subsequently dealt with.

In addition arrangements have been made for the periodic treatment in the steam disinfector, at the Isolation hospital, of blankets and bedding from the various Fire Watching Depots, First Aid Post, and Rescue Party Centres. Blankets and bedding of persons suffering from Scabies have also been similarly dealt with.

SUPERVISION AND INSPECTION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

MILK.

There are 27 purveyors of milk registered in the district; their premises are constantly inspected, and all are required to provide proper dairy facilities for the storage and sale of milk.

The purveyors of milk in the district are made up as follows:-

Producers.....5
Producers-retailer.....4
Other retailers of milk and Milk-shop keepers..11
Non-resident retailers.....7

Close supervision is maintained by the Inspectors on dairies, cowsheds and all the persons engaged in the production and distribution of milk.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, one establishment is licensed for bottling and selling Tuberculin-tested milk, one establishment is lincensed to sell Pasteurised milk, and one establishment is licensed to sell Accredited milk.

During the year 94 samples of milk of all grades were taken to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination, of which 28 proved to be unsatisfactory.

There are 10 farms situated in the district, and at 7, the cowsheds are fitted with modern drinking bowls for each cow, and are served by a constant water supply. Frequent inspections are made at all the farms and dairy premises.

Meat and Other Foods.

There are 18 butchers shops in the district and all the shops and vehicles, to which the meat regulations apply, are constantly inspected and surveyed. All are kept in good condition.

During the year the following articles of food were upon examination found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered from shops in the town and destroyed.

Bacon	18¾	lbs.	Apples	12	tins
Beetroot	6	"	Baking powder	4	"
Beef	230	"	Beans	98	"
Biscuits	357½	"	Chopped Ham	5	"
Butter	2	"	Cray fish	1	"
Cheese	98½	"	Chopped pork	7	"
Cocoa	½	"	Condensed Milk	15	"
Cooking fat	1	"	Coffee	12	"
Custard powder	128	"	Carrots	13	"
Flour	700	"	Evaporated Milk	2173	"
Jam	21	"	Full Cream Milk	51	"
Lamb	46	"	Fish Roll	6	"
Lard	112	"	Kidney Soup	1	"
Marmalade	3	"	Luncheon Meat	69	"
Margarine	62¼	"	Mackerel	33	"
Oatmeal	125	"	Pork Sausage Meat	24	"
Picnic Roll	13	"	Pilchards	28	"
Pork Luncheon meat	242	"	Plums	2	"
Sausage	210	"	Peas	12	"
Stewing Steak	48	"	Prunes	1	"
Cream	8	pots	Pineapple chunks	35	"
Fish paste	3	"	Prem, meat	3	"
Cockles	6	galls	Salmon	1	"
Pickles	4	"	Tang	1	"
Meat-paste	3	jars	Tongue	3	"
Frozen lambs liver	6	pkts.	Tonic Food	4	"
			Tomatoes	60	"
			Vegetable Soup	5	"